

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
Appln. No. 09/844,275
Docket No. Q64296

REMARKS

Claims 1-35 are all the claims pending in the application. Claims 1, 6, 11, 16, 21, 24, and 27 are independent claims.

Claim Rejections

Claims 1-7, 9-12, 14-17, and 19-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Hanaoka (US 4,208,869) in view Kishita et al. (US 6,064,158). Claims 8, 13, and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Hanaoka in view of Kishita, and in further view of Skeki et al. (JP 2000-047638). Claims 30-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Hanaoka in view of Kishita, and further in view of newly cited Runyan (US 4,595,920).

Interview

Applicant thanks Examiners Prabodh M. Dharia and Vijay Shanker for the courtesies extended to Applicant's representative during the personal Interview on October 7, 2004. The independent claims and applied reference Kishita et al. (i.e., parent application US 5,847,516, divisional application US 6,064,158, and related Japanese Patent Publication JP 09-054656) were discussed during this interview.

Applicant notes with appreciation that the Examiners indicated that the prior art rejections will be overcome if the independent claims are amended to recite that each AC voltage is "substantially sinusoidal." Applicant has amended the claims accordingly. These amendments distinguish the recited AC Voltage waveforms from the rectangular waveforms of

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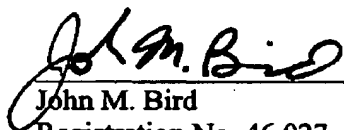
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Kishita, there being no motivation to combine Kishita and Runyan (US 4,595,920). The use of the term "substantially" sinusoidal encompasses either a sinusoidal waveform or a waveform that is substantially sinusoidal, e.g., the various waveforms shown in the original specification at Figs. 12A-C. As such, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the rejections of claims 1-35.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,


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